

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

1. (amended) A dried photosensitizer-carrier composition, comprising:

a¹ (a) a mixture of at least one photosensitizer and at least one block copolymer carrier agent; and

(b) at least one solid support physically associated with said mixture; wherein said composition forms a complex selected from the group consisting of micelles, vesicles, emulsion, gel and matrix upon hydration with an aqueous medium.

3. (amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said composition forms, upon hydration with an aqueous based medium, a complex that is micellar.

a² 4. (amended) A method for formulating a dried mixture of photosensitizer and carrier agent, comprising the steps of:

(a) mixing together at least one photosensitizer and at least one block copolymer carrier agent in liquid form in contact with at least one solid support; and

(b) physically associating the mixture of photosensitizer and carrier agent with said solid support upon drying said mixture; wherein said mixture forms a complex selected from the group consisting of micelles, vesicles, emulsion, gel and matrix upon hydration with an aqueous medium.

a³ 12. (amended) The composition of claim 11 wherein said porphyrin derivative is selected from the group consisting of green porphyrins, tetrahydrochlorins, chlorins bacteriochlorins, isobacteriochlorins, pyropheophorbides, purpurins, texaphyrins, phenothiaziniums, phthalocyanines, naphthalocyanines, porphycenes and pheophorbides.

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15. (amended) The composition of claim 14 wherein said BPD ring derivative is selected from a group consisting of benzoporphyrin derivative monoacid ring A (BPD-MA), A-EA6 and A-B3.

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17. (amended) The composition of claim 16 wherein said endo-support is a polymeric compound.

18. (amended) The method of claim 16 wherein said endo-support is removed after hydration of the photosensitizer-carrier mixture.

20. (amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said carrier agent is a poloxamer.


21. (amended) The composition of claim 20 wherein said block copolymer carrier is selected from the group consisting of symmetric A-B-A and non-symmetric A-B-A' triblock copolymers.

A6
22. (amended) The composition of claim 21 wherein said triblock copolymer is polyoxyethylene polyoxypropylene block copolymer of the formula $\text{HO}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O})_a(\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O})_b(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O})_c\text{H}$, where a and c are independently 1-150 units and b = 10-200 units with the overall molecular weight ranging from 1,000 to 50,000 daltons.

23. (amended) The composition of claim 22 wherein said triblock copolymer is selected from a group consisting of poloxamers wherein $a = c = 1$ to 150 units and $b = 10$ -200 units

24. (amended) The composition of claim 23 wherein said poloxamer is selected from a group consisting of poloxamer 403 (P123), poloxamer 407 (F127), poloxamer 402 (L122),

poloxamer 181 (L61), poloxamer 401 (L121), poloxamer 185 (P65), poloxamer 188 (F68) and poloxamer 338 (F108).



25. (amended) The composition of claim 24 wherein said poloxamer is selected from a group consisting of poloxamer 181 (L61), poloxamer 401 (L121), and poloxamer 402 (L122).

26. (amended) A method of preparing a hydrated photosensitizer-carrier complex comprising preparing a dried mixture of photosensitizer and carrier agent by the method of claim 4 and hydrating said mixture of photosensitizer and carrier agent with an aqueous based medium to produce a hydrated photosensitizer-carrier complex.

27. (amended) The method of claim 26 wherein said complex is micellar.

28. (amended) The method of claim 26 wherein said hydrated mixture of photosensitizer, carrier agent, and solid support is further processed to a reduced size or further formulated.
